Commission No. 1370a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

WASHINGTON ~~X~~ D.C. 20535

July 16, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - R - CUBA

It will be recalled that a Mr. Martin Samuel Abelow advised that in or about June of 1963, while on a vacation trip in New Orleans, Louisiana, he observed a young man distributing Fair Play for Cuba Committee leaflets to a crowd waiting to board a United States aircraft carrier, which was docked in New Orleans at that time. It will also be recalled that in a letter to Mr. V. T. Lee, then National Director of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, Oswald said that "we also managed to picket the fleet when it came in and I was surprised at the number of officers which were interested in our leaflets."

Pursuing the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald, either alone or with others, may have distributed Fair Play for Cuba Committee literature under the circumstances indicated above, inquiry was made at the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI).

On July 14, 1964, Wilbur Sartwell, ONI, Potomac River Naval Command, telephonically advised a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), that the files of his office contain no information that would relate to the subject and the incident described above. He indicated any such record would be at Headquarters, ONI.

On July 15, 1964, Mr. Don Gorham, Acting Chief, NCISC-3, United States Naval Counter Intelligence Support Center, ONI, made available to a representative of the FBI, the Headquarters, ONI files pertaining to the subject.

A review of these files, on July 15, 1964, failed to disclose any record of, or reference to, the circumstances described previously in this communication. This also includes a summary of information available in the file relating to the subject up to the period of the assassination.

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Mr. Gorham pointed out that the actual file of ONI is with the President's Commission, that the files reviewed represent about ninety-eight per cent of available ONI information pertaining to the subject. He said he did not recall any reference to such an incident possibly involving the subject, and felt if there had been such an incident reported it would have been contained in the previously mentioned summary.